

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 1, 10 and 18 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

Applicants respectfully note that the “Response to Arguments” provided in the instant Office Action is incomplete (please refer to the paragraph at the top of page 3 of the Office Action).

Applicants respectfully note that the instant Office Action cites 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) but rejects Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) using a combination of references. Clarification is requested.

Examiner’s Response to Arguments

On page 2, the instant Office Action states that “Applicant[s] also argue that in non-discoverable mode, the responder device will not scan for and respond to broadcast signals but will receive and respond to directed signals. However, this is not claimed ...”. Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, Claim 1 states “wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals.” Claim 1 also states “automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices.” Claim 1 also states “automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not

scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices.” Thus, as recited in the claims, the responder device is in connectable mode when in standby mode, and the responder device is in non-discoverable mode when in standby mode. Therefore, according to the claims, when the responder device is in non-discoverable mode during standby mode, the responder device is also in connectable mode. Accordingly, the responder device will not scan for and respond to broadcast signals (non-discoverable mode) but will receive and respond to directed signals (connectable mode).

On page 2, the instant Office Action also states that “... ‘discoverable’ mode is not specified in the claims as to what it is and what it does ...”. Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, Claim 1 states “said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices.” That is, discoverable mode is a mode in which the responder device scans for and responds to broadcast signals.

Rejections

Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-25

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mahany et al. (“Mahany;” U.S. Patent No. 5,657,317) in view of admitted prior art (APA). The Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-25 is not shown or suggested by Mahany and APA, alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 1 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method comprising “automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices, and wherein said standby mode is a power-conserving mode relative to said awake mode; and automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices, wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device” (emphasis added). Claims 2-8 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 10 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method comprising “receiving at said responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device, wherein said first wireless signal is a broadcast signal also received by multiple responder devices within range of said initiator device; automatically entering a discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode sends a second wireless signal in response to said first wireless signal, wherein said second wireless signal is to be received by said initiator device; automatically entering a non-

discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode receives but does not send a response to said first wireless signal, and wherein said standby mode is a power-conserving mode relative to said awake mode; and automatically entering a connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode receives and responds to a directed wireless signal from initiator device, wherein said directed wireless signal specifically identifies said responder device so that only said responder device and not any other of said multiple responder devices within said range of said initiator device receives said directed wireless signal” (emphasis added). Claims 11-16 are dependent on Claim 10 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 18 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a responder device that implements a method comprising “automatically setting said responder device to discoverable mode when said responder device enters awake mode, wherein said responder device in said discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices; automatically setting said responder device to non-discoverable mode when said responder device enters standby mode, wherein said responder device in said non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices, and wherein said standby mode is a power-conserving mode relative to said awake mode; and automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said

connectable mode receives and responds to directed wireless signals from initiator devices, wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device” (emphasis added). Claims 19-25 are dependent on Claim 18 and recite additional limitations.

In the claimed embodiments, in connectable mode, a responder device scans for and responds to directed signals. In the claimed embodiments, the responder device is in connectable mode while in standby mode, which is a power-conserving mode (relative to an awake mode). While in standby mode, the responder device is also in non-discoverable mode. In non-discoverable mode, the responder device will not scan for and respond to broadcast signals. Thus, according to the present claimed invention, while in non-discoverable mode, the responder device will not scan for and respond to broadcast signals, but will receive and respond to directed signals.

The instant Office Action equates the transmission of data during time period 3219 of Mahany with the directed signals of the present claimed invention. Applicants respectfully submit that, according to Mahany, the slave device needs to activate (wake up) in order to receive data. That is, if for the sake of argument the transmission of data is considered equivalent to a directed signal, Applicants understand Mahany to describe that the slave device only receives directed signals when the slave device is awake. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany does not show or suggest the capability to receive directed signals while not awake and in a power-conserving mode (e.g., standby mode).

Applicants respectfully submit that APA does not overcome the shortcomings of Mahany. That is, Applicants respectfully submit that APA, alone or in combination with Mahany, does not show or suggest the capability to receive directed signals while not awake and in a power-conserving standby mode, as recited in the claims.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany and APA, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present claimed invention as recited by independent Claims 1, 10 and 18, and that Claims 1, 10 and 18 are in condition for allowance. Also, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany and APA, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 2-8 dependent on Claim 1, Claims 11-16 dependent on Claim 10, and Claims 19-25 dependent on Claim 18, and that Claims 2-8, 11-16 and 19-25 are in condition for allowance as being dependent on allowable base claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is traversed.

Claims 9, 17 and 26

Claims 9, 17 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany in view of APA and further in view of Vook et al. ("Vook," U.S. Patent No. 5,625,882). The Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 9, 17 and 26 is not shown or suggested by Mahany, APA and Vook, alone or in combination.

Claim 9 is dependent on independent Claim 1; Claim 17 is dependent on independent Claim 10; and Claim 26 is dependent on independent Claim 18. As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany and APA (alone or in combination) do not show or suggest the present invention as recited by independent Claims 1, 10 and 18.

Applicants respectfully submit that Vook does not overcome the shortcomings of Mahany and APA. That is, Applicants respectfully submit that Vook, alone or in combination with Mahany and APA, does not show or suggest the capability to receive directed signals while not awake and in a power-conserving standby mode, as recited in the claims.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Mahany, APA and Vook (alone or in combination) do not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 9, 17 and 26, and that these claims are in condition for allowance as being dependent on allowable base claims. As such, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 9, 17 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Conclusions

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.

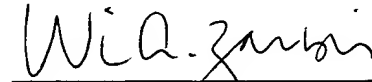
Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-26 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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